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DE RUEHKT #0946 1011209
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1068
INFO RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 3830
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 9526
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE 4440
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA IMMEDIATE 9529
RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 4173
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 2427
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE 0755
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 000946

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DEPT FOR D, P, SCA

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TAGS: PREL PGOV PTER NP

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR PRESSING NEPALI GOVERNMENT FOR RESTRAINT AND TO REACH OUT TO PARTIES

REF: KATHMANDU 944

Classified By: Ambassador James F. Moriarty, Reasons, 1.4 (b/d).

Vice-Chairmen: Parties Should Reach Out ...

¶1. (C) On April 10, the Ambassador spoke separately with Vice-Chairmen Tulsi Giri and Kirti Nidhi Bista to urge His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMGN) to release political detainees, reach out to the political parties, and lift the curfew. Bista limited his response to agreeing that matters were bad and asking whether the Ambassador could persuade the political parties to reach out to the King.

... And USG Should Push Them to Do So

¶2. (C) Giri's message was that conditions were deteriorating in Nepal because the seven party alliance had lost control of the demonstrations. He pointed out that the Maoists had announced their intention to enforce a nation-wide closure of the roads (chhakhajam) and were urging people to tear down statues of the King and royalty all over the country (reftel). Noting that Nepali Congress President G.P. Koirala was upset with the Maoists, Giri asked the Ambassador whether the USG could push Koirala to offer an olive branch to the King, which the King would accept. The Ambassador responded that the Vice-Chairman's analysis was askew; he explained that the Parties viewed the King as being in a weakened position. The Ambassador stressed that it was incumbent upon the King to be reasonable.

Comment

¶3. (C) Other sources indicate that the King is increasingly nervous about the direction of events here. That said, it is not encouraging to hear the two Vice-Chairmen still continuing to hope that the parties will take the initiative to reach out to the King instead of the other way around.
MORIARTY